coming in provided they help in maintaining value addition and bring foreign exchange to the country within the national economic interests. This kind of campaign does not help promote the concept of EPZs in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 145. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, kindly allow me I will just take half-a-minute. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dipen Ghosh, you are a leader. I have given change to Mr. Kunjachen.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I have a supplementary which the other hon. Members have not raised.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In that case, you should have told Mr. Kunjachen. Question No. 145.

High rise buildings without fire-fighting devices

*145. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA†:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the Indian Express of the 14th April, 1989 under the caption '169 sky scrapers lack fire-fighting devices';

(b) if so, what are the details of the ownership of each of these high-rise buildings in Delhi which lack fire-fighting devices;

(c) whether Government have taken any action against the owners of all these buildings for not installing the fire-fighting equipment; and

(d) what are the reasons for which the NDMC/MCD had given completion certificates of each of these buildings without insisting for the prior installation of fire-fighting devices in those building ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) A statement (*See* below) alongwith an Annexure, is laid on the Table of the House.

[*See* Appendix CL, Annexure No. 47]

Statement

High-rise buildings without fire fighting devices

Government have seen the news item.

2. Prior to 1983, there was no provision for enforcing fire safety measures. Consequenst upon devastating fires in high-rise buildings, the need for effective enforcement of fire safety measures was felt. Accordingly, Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986 was enacted and came into force on 2nd March, 1987. The Rules framed thereunder were notified on 31st March, 1987.

3. In respect of buildings constructed after the notification of Unified Buildings Bye-Laws in 1983, grant of occupancy certificate was made subject to the provision of fire-safety measures as prescribed by the Chief Fire-Officer.

4. In respect of high-rise buildings constructed prior to 1983 (when there was no statutory requirement for providing fire safety measures), inspections were conducted by the Delhi Fire Service and notices were issued (details of ownership are annexed) for provision of essential fire safety measures as prescribed under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986. According to a recent survey by Delhi Fire Service, appreciable progress has been achieved in this direction.

श्री पुट्टापागा राधाकृष्ण : सभापति जी, बूटा सिंह जी का एक स्टेटमेंट है। मैं उसको झूठा नहीं कहता हूं, लेकिन एक बात है . . .

एक माननीय सदस्य : क्यों नहीं कहते ?

*The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Puttapaga Radhakrishna.

श्री पुट्टापागा राधाकृष्ण : उसमें उन्होंने उन बिल्डिंग्ज का लिस्ट दिया है जिनमें फायर-फाइटिंग डिवाइसिज नहीं रहने के नोटिस दिया गया है। उनमें गैर सरकारी बिल्डिंग्ज 80 हैं, सरकारी और सरकारी अंडरटेकिंग्ज की बिल्डिंग्ज 89 हैं। प्राइवेट आदमी के कानून के लूपहोल्ज देख कर लूपहोल्ज से पार होने को सकता है, लेकिन हम यह बात नहीं मानते कि सरकार भी कानून के लूपहोल्ज को देख कर उसमें से पास होना चाहती है।

इसमें सरकारी 89 बिल्डिंग्ज में फायर-फाइटिंग डिवाइसिज नहीं है। इसके लिए सरकार क्या सोच रही है कि एक समय पर इसको कम्पलीट करना है। कितने समय में इन रिक्वायरमेंट्स को कम्पलाई करेंगे ?

SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, our attitude towards the Government and the private buildings is the same. Continuous-process is going on. From the records, I can say that in regard to Government buildings, till today, 8 Government buildings have complied with 10-14 requirements, 15 buildings with 7-9 requirements, 3 buildings have complied with 5-8 requirements and 63 buildings have complied with 2-4 requirements. We have got the information in respect of the private buildings also.

It is true that all the formalities have not been complied with by the Government and the private buildings. But we are pursuing the matter and we will not hesitate to punitive action. The Minister has called a meeting sometime in this month. Then, further steps will be taken. Apart from the Government buildings, we have requested the C.P.W.D; to have a Superintending Engineer exclusively to oversee the compliance of these requirements. This is being done and I am sure that in the near future all these formalities would be observed.

श्री पुट्टापागा राधाकृष्ण : सभापति जी, हमें पता है कि दिल्ली में होटल खोलने के लिए परमिशन देना बंद किये हुए हैं, लेकिन होटल्ज बंद नहीं हैं। होटल्ज तो गैर-कानूनी खुलते ही जा रहे हैं। वह बूल्स मिट्टी तो के डिपार्टमेंट वालों को थोड़ा थोड़ा बांटते हैं, चढ़ाते रहते हैं।

श्री [illegible] : आप तो सब ही एक्सेप्ट करते फायर-फाइटिंग डिवाइसिज पर है।

श्री पुट्टापागा राधाकृष्ण : कारण यह है कि यह परमिशन देने का, लाइसेंस देने का प्रोविजन नहीं है, इस लिए यह कंडीशन फुलफिल नहीं करते हैं--बिना फायर-फाइटिंग डिवाइसिज के होटल्ज चलाते रहते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

"Review of the Forest Conservatisn Act"

*142. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has stressed the need for the setting up of a high power committee to reveiw the provisions under the Forest Conservation Act;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when the said committee will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Committee consisting of Members of Parliament, officials and non-officials has been set up on 6.4.1989. The terms of reference of the Committee are laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below).